

reflection through a side wall thereof, at least one of said reflecting surfaces having a cross-sectional area less than that of said fibre, said reflecting surfaces varying in cross-sectional area and/or spacing such that light is emitted over said light emitting region substantially uniformly.

Please amend each of Claims 2 through 16 in line 1 by deleting "optical fibre" and inserting in place thereof -- illumination device --.

Please add new Claims 17 through 23:

-- 17. An illumination device comprising an optical fibre for propagating light in a preselected direction, said fibre having a light emitting region, said light emitting region comprising a plurality of reflecting surfaces of optical quality extending into said fibre and arranged such that a portion of light propagating along said fibre and impinging upon said surfaces will be reflected out of said fibre by total internal reflection through a side wall thereof, said reflecting surfaces having cross-sectional areas that vary such that the amount of light reflected out of said fibre by each of said reflecting surfaces is substantially equal.

18. An illumination device according to Claim 17 wherein each of said reflecting surfaces is substantially planar.

19. An illumination device comprising a plurality of optical fibres for propagating light in a preselected direction, said fibres being aligned to form an array, said array having a light emitting region wherein each of said fibres has a plurality of reflecting surfaces of optical quality extending therein such that a portion of light propagating along any fibre of the array and impinging on said reflecting surfaces will be reflected out of its fibre by total internal reflection.

20. An illumination device according to Claim 19 wherein the spacing between said reflecting surfaces decreases as distance along said fibres increases in said preselected direction.